

Remarks:

Claims 11, 13, 15, 17-20, 22, 23, 25, and 27 are now pending in this application. Applicant has amended claims 11, 13, 15, 17-20, 22, 23, 25, and 27, cancelled claims 12, 14, 16, 21, 24, and 26 and presented new claim 27 to clarify the present invention. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application.

The objection to the claims is no longer relevant since claims 21 and 26 are no longer pending. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the claims.

Applicant has amended the specification to correct the reference characters identifying the cooling channels and the fastening means. Applicant has also deleted references to the claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

The Examiner rejected claims 11-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Applicant has amended claim 11 to clarify the present invention as recited therein and to provide antecedent basis for all elements recited therein. Claim 12 is no longer pending. Claim 15 no longer recited the phrase "or the like". Claim 16 is no longer pending. Applicant has amended claims 19 and 20 to ensure that antecedent basis exists for all elements. Claim 21 is no longer pending. Applicant has clarified claims 22 and 23 so that it is clear that the gas supply recited therein is the gas supply recited in claim 11. Claim 24 is no longer pending. In view of the above, Applicant submits that all claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second

paragraph and respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

The Examiner rejected claims 11, 12, and 18-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent 5,897,681 to Lysson et al. in view of U.S. patent publication 2001/0005992 to Yoon et al. The Examiner rejected claims 13-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lysson et al. and Yoon et al. in view of U.S. patent 6,003,341 to Bloom.

Lysson et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claim 11 since, among other things, Lysson et al. does not suggest a cover part or seal. Yoon et al. does not relate to a drawing furnace. Therefore, it would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine these references to result in the present invention as recited in claim 11. Accordingly, the combination of Lysson et al. and Yoon et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claim 11 or claims 18-20, 22, 23, or 25, which depend from claim 11.

Similarly, for the same reason, the combination of Lysson et al., Yoon et al. and Bloom does not suggest the present invention as recited in claims 13, 15, or 17, which depend from claim 11.

In view of the above, the references relied upon in the office action, whether considered alone or in combination, do not suggest patentable features of the present invention. Therefore, the references relied upon in the office action, whether considered alone or in combination, do not make the present invention obvious. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections based upon the cited references.

In conclusion, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance.

If an interview would advance the prosecution of this case, Applicant urges the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge fee insufficiency and credit overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

12/21/07



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